Scheme for foreign nationals in National Institutes

768. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated a scheme to assist foreign nationals to study in our best National institutes;

(b) if so, the details of the "Direct Admission of Students Abroad" (DASA);

(c) the ways in which Government propose to use DASA to help NRI and others;

(d) the details of safeguards instituted in the implementation of DASA; and

(e) whether DASA is prone to be misused?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) to (c) The Government of India is implementing a scheme called Direct Admission of Students Abroad (DASA) under which Direct Admission to Foreign Nationals/Persons of Indian Origin (PIOs) studying in any Country (including India) or Indian Nationals studying abroad is given to undertake engineering programmes offered by Centrally funded institutions (other than IITs). The Candidate must have secured at least 60% aggregate marks in all the subjects of qualifying examination. Other requirements such as, Age and Academic Qualification etc. are similar to the admission of Indian Nationals studying in India. The information regarding admission to various Under-graduate Programmes are widely disseminated through Indian Missions/Embassies and other means of publicity.

(d) to (e) While admitting the students under the scheme, eligibility criteria are being strictly followed, on the basis of the documents submitted by the candidates. No instance of its misuse has come to the notice since introduction of the scheme in 2001.

Irregularities in private schools

769. SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal to constitute an Authority to check irregularities in the private schools;